

**Budget & Finance Committee
Regular Meeting
May 4, 2004 - 2:30 p.m.
Tribal Office Conference Room A**

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call-**

Committee Chairperson Laurie Reiter called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. Those present: Kathy Kaquatosh, Dan Maine, Ann Marie Johnson, Troy Sadler and Randy Chevalier. Michael Chapman and Jeremy Weso were absent. Also present for the meeting was Bernard Vigue, Mary Wayka, Jennifer Gauthier, Nick Uttecht, Pat Corn and Kristi Arnold.

2. **Moment of Silence** - A moment of silence was observed.

3. **Approval of Minutes from April 20, 2004-**

Motion made by Randy Chevalier to approve the minutes of April 20, 2004. Motion was seconded by Kathy Kaquatosh. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

4. **Tribal Courts Request-**

Mary Wayka was present to discuss the request. At the last meeting the committee asked Mary to revise the request and take out equipment & furniture and the shelving. Mary did have a request that did reflect that but Mary stated that Chief Justice Kittecon would like the items to remain in the request because according to Rick Warrington in Community Development, the new Courts Building will be ready July 9, 2004.

Motion made by Randy Chevalier to recommend taking \$73,572 out of the Ramah Navajo Funds for the Tribal Courts Request and that if there is any funds left over from the Tribal Courts Construction the money will be placed back into the Ramah Navajo Funds. Motion was seconded by Ann Marie Johnson. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed. Motion carried.

5. **Middle Village Fire Department-**

Nick Uttecht from the Middle Village Fire Department was present to request an additional \$4,000 for his budget. Nick stated that this year there has been a lot of fires and Middle Village is usually called no matter where the fire is. Right now Nick is projecting that his salaries are going to be depleted soon.

Committee discussed the issue and realized that \$75,000 was budgeted for fire protection and it was divided up between all the fire departments on the reservation.

Nick informed the committee that he already went to County and they said they weren't going to give him anymore money. Committee is unsure if they can make decisions on this issue because of the agreements between the Tribe and County. Committee thought about sending the issue to the MTL/Co. Task Force but decided on sending it to the Menominee Tribal Legislature for clarification.

Motion made by Ann Marie Johnson to send the Middle Village Fire Department request to the Menominee Tribal Legislature to determine whether the Budget & Finance Committee has the authority to negotiate a funding request. Motion was seconded by Kathy Kaquatosh. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed. Motion carried.

6. **Review Revenue Projections-**

At the last meeting the Committee wanted the Directors from Community Development, Aging, Gaming Commission, License & Permits and Tax Commissioner to be present at this meeting.

Bernard Vigue from Community Development was present and committee wanted to know about the revenue generating projects that are coming up and when will the funds be submitted to the Tribe? Bernard gave everyone a list of upcoming projects and what their revenue will bring in. Bernard also stated that all of the projects will be done in July and he anticipates on putting \$200,000 into the general fund by August.

Chairperson Reiter told Lynette Miller, Gaming Commission Director that she didn't have to be present for this meeting. All the committee wanted to know from Lynette is where does she draw her revenue from? Chairperson Reiter stated that asked Lynette that question and the answer is from the Gaming License that employees must pay for.

Yvette Snow, License & Permits Director was not present for the meeting. Chairperson Reiter stated that all the committee wants from her is a list of everything she sells that generates revenue. Jennifer Gauthier will get a list from Yvette.

Committee would still like to have Jetta Coon, Aging Division Director and Roberta Reiter, Tax Commissioner present at the next meeting so the committee can ask them questions.

7. Review Expense Projections-

Committee went into a lengthy discussion regarding all the departments that are going to be over spent by the end of the year. At the last meeting the committee requested that all departments create a six month budget to see where they are. Committee members reviewed each department.

Committee went into lengthy discussion regarding Housing and the projected \$53,526 they will be short. Committee members stated that the reason why is because the Drug Elimination Project was eliminated across the country and now they changed the name of the program and the department had to pick up the cost because before it was covered by grant.

Committee members wanted to know why they are still supporting that program where there are so many housing needs in the area such as elders needing ramps and making their houses wheelchair accessible.

Motion made by Ann Marie Johnson to request the direction of the Menominee Tribal Legislature to review and provide clarification on Housing's need of \$53,526 regarding reprogramming and NAHASDA dollars to cover the needs of the elderly. Motion was seconded by Kathy Kaquatosh. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

Committee went into lengthy discussion regarding the Police Department and how they really didn't need two more officers if they would utilize administrative personnel that are certified officers.

Motion made by Ann Marie Johnson to recommend to the Menominee Tribal Legislature the approval of the 6 month status review as discussed in the Budget & Finance Committee of May 4, 2004. Motion was seconded by Randy Chevalier. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

8. Other Business-

No other business was discussed.

9. Adjournment-

Motion made by Ann Marie Johnson to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Dan Maine. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Legislative Staff Services